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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,692	01/23/2002	Maire Mahony	843161-106	8773

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EXAMINER	
PATEL, NIMESH G	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

DATE MAILED: 10/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/055,692	MAHONY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nimesh G Patel	2112	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 August 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *23 January 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art, in view of Hoglund et al.(6,029,216), hereinafter referred to as APA and Hoglund, respectively.

4. Regarding claim 1, APA discloses a Compact Peripheral Component Interconnect (CPCI) system comprising: a circuit board(Paragraph 6, backplane); a front card coupled to a transition card via said circuit board; a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) bus connected to said transition card, said SCSI bus having a first end and a second end; and an SCSI device connected to said first end of said SCSI bus(Paragraph 7).

APA does not specifically disclose a period when said front card is disconnected from said CPCI system wherein said transition card provides a termination at said second end of said SCSI bus. However, Hoglund discloses automatically providing termination at a transition

card(Figure 3, 14) when a SCSI device at an end is disconnected(Column 5, Lines 8-14; Column 7, Line 58-Column 8, Line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Hoglund in the system of APA to provide a period when said front card is disconnected from said CPCI system a transition card provides a termination at said second end of said SCSI bus since this would allow devices in a SCSI chain to be disconnected without turning power off to the rest of the system.

5. Regarding claim 2, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein during normal operation when said front card is connected with said system, said front card provides the termination at said second end of said SCSI bus and said transition card does not provide the termination(Column 5, Lines 1-7).

6. Regarding claim 3, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein during the period when said front card is disconnected from said system, said transition card automatically provides the termination(Column 5, Lines 8-14).

7. Regarding claim 4, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein when said front card is reconnected with said system, said transition card automatically does not provide the termination(Column 5, Lines 1-7).

8. Regarding claim 5, APA discloses a CPCI system, further comprising a plurality of peripheral cards connected to said circuit board(Paragraph 6).

9. Regarding claim 6, APA discloses a CPCI system, wherein said plurality of peripheral cards are in communication with said front card(Paragraph 6).

10. Regarding claim 7, APA discloses a CPCI system, wherein each of said plurality of peripheral cards is coupled to a corresponding peripheral transition card via said circuit board(Paragraph 6).

11. Regarding claim 8, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein said front card is presented with a first time-separated power domain and a second time-separated power domain(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

12. Regarding claim 9, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein said first time-separated power domain is provided to said transition card only when said front card is coupled to said transition card(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

13. Regarding claim 10, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein said transition card uses said first time-separated power domain to determine when to provide the termination to said second end of said SCSI bus(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

14. Regarding claim 11, Hoglund discloses a system, further comprising a switch for preventing said transition card from providing the termination(Column 7, Line 58-Column 8, Line 8).

15. Regarding claim 12, Hoglund discloses a system, further comprising a switch for preventing said front card from providing the termination(Column 7, Line 58-Column 8, Line 8).

16. Regarding claim 13, APA discloses a CPCI System, wherein a plurality of connectors affixed to said circuit board and said front card is coupled to said transition card via said plurality of connectors(Paragraphs 5-6).

17. Regarding claim 14, APA discloses a Compact Peripheral Component Interconnect (CPCI) system including a circuit board(Paragraph 6, backplane), said CPCI system comprising: first, second, third, fourth and fifth connectors affixed to said circuit board(It is inherent these connectors are used to supply signals in a CPCI system and evidenced by page 3 of the CompactPCI Specification Short form); a front card coupled to a transition card via said third, fourth and fifth connectors; a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) bus connected to said transition card, said SCSI bus having a first end and a second end; and an SCSI device

connected to said first end of said SCSI bus; and a first time-separated power domain provided to said first, second and third connectors, said first and second connectors providing said first power domain to said front card and said third connector providing said first power domain to said transition card(Paragraph 7).

APA does not specifically disclose a transition card that uses said first power domain to determine when to provide a termination at said second end of said SCSI bus. However, Hoglund discloses automatically providing termination at a transition card(Figure 3, 14) when a SCSI device at an end is disconnected(Column 5, Lines 8-14; Column 7, Line 58-Column 8, Line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Hoglund in the system of APA to provide a first power domain to determine when to provide a termination at said second end of said SCSI bus since this would allow devices in a SCSI chain to be disconnected without turning power off to the rest of the system.

Hoglund further discloses a first power domain that can be provided to said transition card only when said front card is connected to said third connector(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

18. Regarding claim 15, Hoglund disclose a system, wherein a second time-separated power domain is provided to said front card and said transition card(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

19. Regarding claim 16, APA discloses a CPCI system, wherein said second power domain is provided to said transition card via said third, fourth and fifth connectors(It is inherent these connectors are used to supply signals in a CPCI system and evidenced by page 3 of the CompactPCI Specification Short form).

20. Regarding claim 17, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein during normal operation when said front card is connected with said system, said front card provides the termination at said second end of said SCSI bus and said transition card does not provide the termination(Column 5, Lines 1-7).

21. Regarding claim 18, Hoglund discloses a system, wherein during a period of when said front card is disconnected from said system, said transition card provides the termination at said second end of said SCSI bus(Column 5, Lines 8-14).

22. Regarding claim 19, APA discloses a method for implementing a hot swap on a Compact Peripheral Component Interconnect (CPCI) system, comprising the steps of: providing a first time-separated power domain to a front card(Paragraph 7).

APA does not specifically disclose a method for using said transition card to provide a termination at a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) bus connected to said transition card only if said first time-separated power domain is not being provided to said transition card. However, Hoglund discloses automatically providing termination at a transition card(Figure 3, 14) when a SCSI device at an end is disconnected(Column 5, Lines 8-14; Column 7, Line 58-Column 8, Line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Hoglund in the system of APA to use said transition card to provide a termination at a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) bus connected to said transition card only if said first time-separated power domain is not being provided to said transition card since this would allow devices in a SCSI chain to be disconnected without turning power off to the rest of the system.

Hoglund further discloses a method for providing said first time-separated power domain to a transition card only if said front card is coupled to said transition card and using said front card to provide the termination at said SCSI bus if said first time separated power domain is being provided to said transition card(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

23. Regarding claim 20, APA discloses a method, wherein said front card is coupled to said transition card via a circuit board(Paragraph 6).

24. Regarding claim 21, APA discloses a method, wherein said front card comprises first, second, third, fourth and fifth connectors, and said front card is coupled to said transition card

via said third, fourth and fifth connectors(It is inherent these connectors are used to supply signals in a CPCI system and evidenced by page 3 of the CompactPCI Specification Short form).

25. Regarding claim 22, APA discloses a method, wherein said first time-separated power domain is provided to said first, second and third connectors, said first and second connectors providing said first power domain to said front card and said third connector providing said power domain to said transition card(It is inherent these connectors are used to supply signals in a CPCI system and evidenced by page 3 of the CompactPCI Specification Short form).

26. Regarding claim 23, Hoglund discloses a method, further comprising the step of providing a second time-separated power domain to said front card and said transition card(Column 6, Lines 21-43).

27. Regarding claim 24, Hoglund discloses a method 24, wherein said SCSI bus has a first end and a second end and wherein said first end is connected to an SCSI device and said second end is connected to said transition card(Column 5, 8-14).

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nimesh G Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-3640. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark H Rinehart can be reached on 571-272-3632. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nimesh G Patel
Examiner
Art Unit 2112

NP NP
October 20, 2004

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